



THE SOCIETY OF THE NEW YORK HOSPITAL *Record*

ACHIEVEMENT REPORT FOR 1947 of THE NEW YORK HOSPITAL *(including the Westchester Division)*

THIS report of some of the interesting activities of The New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center during 1947 is prepared with gratitude and in awareness that the record of progress, as outlined, was made possible through the generosity of the Members and loyal friends of The Society of the New York Hospital. With a few exceptions, it does not set forth in figures the enormous amount of work accomplished as will the Annual Report which is now being prepared. It does, however, indicate the wide scope of the programs and services being carried on and the progressive steps instituted to meet the challenge which is presented to the world of medicine today.

CARE OF THE SICK

In-Patient (bed) Services

<u>Total number of beds in operation</u>	1,445
Pavilion.....	691
Semi-private.....	167
Private.....	179
Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic.....	110
Westchester Division.....	298
<u>Number of bed patients cared for</u>	25,822

An increase of 1,498 patients over the total number in 1946

Days of bed care. 442,065

An increase of 1,442 days of care over 1946.

Numerous problems were presented in caring for this large number of sick. Despite the essentially necessary increase in patient rates, effected during the year to meet progressively rising operating expenses, the cost to the Hospital of pavilion (ward) care is still much higher than the prevailing charge to patients.

Special Pavilions Included

Premature Baby Ward—In this ward, babies born underweight are cared for by a special staff of nurses and doctors until they are sturdy enough to be discharged. In many cases they are kept in the Hospital for months after their mothers have returned home.



One of the Hospital's tiniest patients

Metabolism Ward—In this ward, patients with many different types of glandular diseases are accepted for treatment and research.

Tuberculosis Ward—In this ward, patients with varying degrees of tuberculosis are treated and studied and undergo the newest therapeutic measures. This ward is particularly unusual in a general hospital.

Emergency Ward—This ward, equipped with six beds, a laboratory, an operating room and a special staff of doctors and nurses, is open day and night to receive emergency cases.

Number of Operating Rooms. 15

Number of Operations performed. 13,168

New Techniques and Procedures Used in Surgery

In the correction of the birth deformity of hair lip, babies born in The New York Hospital with this malformation are operated on within 48 hours after birth. Operation this early in the child's life materially reduces the mortality due to the deformity and also permits these infants to be of normal appearance when they are taken home.

In treating patients with peptic ulcers, a new method is being used which directly prevents the most probable cause of this disease—over production of acid by the stomach. By removing $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches of each vagus nerve, impulses originating in the brain are blocked from reaching the stomach where, in the ulcer patient, they cause excessive formation of acid.

In general anesthesia, the use of the drug Curare diminishes the amount of anesthetic gases required. In this manner the risk incurred by a patient undergoing a major operation is appreciably reduced.

Number of Delivery Rooms..... 5

Number of Babies born..... 3,986

All operating and delivery rooms are air-conditioned and have the most modern equipment. Staffs receive special training in operative procedures.

Out-Patient (clinic) Services

Total number of clinics..... 66

Medical and Surgical..... 38

Pediatrics..... 13

The Out-Patient Service in this department remains one of the four largest in the United States.

Maternity and Gynecology..... 14

Psychiatry..... 1

Number of clinic patients treated..... 50,518

An increase of 2,571 over the total number in 1946.

Number of clinic visits..... 296,755

An increase of 15,127 over 1946.

As clinics are operated five days a week, this figure represents an average attendance of over 900 patients a day. Every effort is made to treat each case with respect to the circumstances of the individual patient involved and measures have been instituted to make the unavoidable delays as short and pleasant as possible.

Services and Programs which have Received Added Emphasis

The Psychosomatic Clinic—to which patients are referred for examination and observation whose illnesses are caused by or are dependent upon mental or emotional disturbances instead of physical disorders.

The Transfusion Clinic—which treats children who are afflicted with serious blood diseases (including Cooley's Anemia). The increase of young patients requiring these services necessitated a second clinic being instituted to meet the demand. Doctors on the staff of The New York Hospital discovered four years ago that this group of young patients can be kept healthy and able to participate in the usual routines of childhood through by-monthly transfusions.



Willing patients, many of whom realize how vitally important the transfusions are to them.

The Well-Baby Clinic—to which healthy infants and children are brought for periodic examinations and immunizations, and mothers are advised as to proper formulas, diets, and mental, emotional and physical development. This clinic is an outstanding example of the Hospital's efforts in the field of preventive medicine.

The Follow-up Clinic in Surgery—is attended by all surgical patients at appointed intervals after their discharge from the Hospital. This, too, is another instance of preventive medicine.

The Diversional Therapy Program in Pediatrics—is in reality a serious research project where the effects of various types of play and guided activities on the illnesses and convalescences of sick children are studied. One of the most striking findings is that supervised play and diversionary activities in many cases actually speed the small patient through his illness and hasten his start on the road to recovery.

Pelvimetry X-ray—This procedure has been adopted as part of the routine examination of every maternity patient and has helped to insure the normal birth of many babies and in numerous cases obviated the need of operative procedures. (Caesarean births.)

Chest X-ray Examinations of all Employees—This procedure is deemed a most essential safeguard. The Photo-Roentgen process used in making these examinations provides two 4" x 5" stereoscopic films (instead of the routine 14" x 17" film), thus greatly lessening the cost and time involved.

Services and Programs Instituted During 1947

The Cancer Detection Center—carried on in conjunction with the Department of Public Health for the examination of patients for symptoms of cancer.

Clinic for Convulsive Disorders of Children—The frequency of epilepsy and of convulsions from other sources in children prompted the establishment of this special clinic to study and treat these disorders.

Pediatric Metabolism Clinic—in which special attention is given to psychiatric and endocrine problems in pre-adolescent boys and girls, since these problems are among the major ones in this period of growth.

Telecasting of Operations—In September, 1947, six operations performed at The New York Hospital were televised to the Congress of the American College



Each step of the operation being televised was described by the surgeon as the operation progressed.

of Surgeons, at the Hotel Waldorf. This was the first program of its kind in history and demonstrated the value of television as a teaching medium.

Occupational Therapy Program—This program was instituted in the Department of Medicine in the main Hospital with exceptionally successful results.

Father's Classes—In these classes, fathers are instructed by doctors and nurses in the care of their babies.

RESEARCH

Number of Research Projects Being Conducted 180

Cancer

Resources of the entire Center have been marshalled in the fight against cancer. Clinical and laboratory research in this field goes on ceaselessly in a concerted drive to conquer the disease. One outstanding contribution toward this goal has already been scored—the Papanicolaou Smear. The value of this quick and painless test, which ascertains the presence of cancer cells in certain fluids of the body, has been firmly established and has proven 96 per cent accurate.

Other significant efforts in this continuous battle are the investigations in the use of radioactive isotopes in the diagnosis and treatment of the disease; the initiation of a Cancer Detection Center (see page 5), and the establishment of a new Tumor Clinic. The Cornell University Medical College has been awarded funds by The New York City Cancer Committee in Support of The Ewing Professorship in Neoplastic Diseases (cancer).

To implement the vast amount of work being conducted, an interdepartmental Committee on Neoplastic Diseases has been appointed to coordinate and further the efforts carried on throughout the Center.

Other Research Projects

Space prevents the enumeration of the complete list of research projects, all of them hopeful for the future betterment of the sick throughout the world. However, added attention is being focussed on the progress of the work, already well under way, against serious illnesses such as hypertension (high blood pressure), rheumatic fever, muscular dystrophy (the wasting away of muscles), hyperthyroidism, and coronary (heart) diseases. Investigations have been intensified in the discovery, use and administration of new drugs, and in the development of new X-ray equipment and methods.

Indicative of the importance put upon Preventive Medicine are two projects of extraordinary interest in that particular field of research: (1) The Institute of Child Development, aimed to increase the knowledge concerning growth and development of infants and children, beginning with the pre-natal period and continuing through adolescence; with emphasis in the physical, psychological, social and intellectual spheres. As an integral part of this program, a Nursery School is conducted which is attended by both normal children and children with behavior difficulties. (2) The project to ascertain the causes of alcoholism.



Close observation of a child's reactions to his diversional work proves of great value. {See "Institute of Child Development" on preceding page.}

TEACHING

In conformity with the Hospital's traditional concepts of teaching and the now accepted standards of all teaching hospitals, the education of doctors and nurses is carried on in every department. Students of both Schools receive their experience in the invaluable training ground of the Hospital.

Number of students in the Cornell University Medical College 320

In addition the Center is responsible for the training of more than 250 graduate physicians (interns, residents and fellows).

An exceedingly important Training Center for Cytologic Methods in Cancer Detection has been established in the College by funds provided by The National Advisory Cancer Council. The work is carried on in cooperation with many departments of The New York Hospital and other hospitals in the area. Physicians and biologists from many parts of the world (twenty different countries are represented) as well as from our own country come here for training.

Number of students in the Cornell University-New York Hospital

School of Nursing 153

In addition, 32 affiliate students received experience in obstetrics and pediatrics.

In view of the acute nursing shortage, it is encouraging that the School has a larger registration for the next incoming class than were registered for the comparable class last year.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Dr. Stanhope Bayne-Jones was appointed on July 1, 1947, by the Board of Trustees of Cornell University and the Board of Governors of The New York Hospital as President of The Joint Administrative Board of Cornell University and The Society of the New York Hospital.

Laurence G. Payson, formerly Vice-President of the Bankers' Trust Company, joined the Administrative Staff of the Hospital on February 16, 1947, and was elected Secretary-Treasurer on December 2, 1947.

Murray Sargent resigned as Director of the Hospital as of December 31, 1947.

Murray Sargent was appointed a consultant on Administration.

Administrative Activities

Pension Plan Initiated—on May 6, 1947, to include all employees of The New York Hospital. This plan provides employees who retire at the age of 65, after 15 or more years of service, with a monthly income based on their average monthly salary and their number of years of service.

Staff Nursery School Established—to meet an increasing need, a nursery school for the children of the Hospital's Professional Staff was established. Tuition fees cover the salary of a paid teacher whom the mothers take turns in helping. The Hospital provides the space and some of the equipment.

Special Indoctrination Program for Employees—instituted under the supervision of a nurse director to teach attendants, orderlies and floor clerks what is expected of them and to give them a sense of the importance of their work. This program has greatly relieved the heavily burdened nursing staff and resulted in more efficient service.

Dinner of Tribute—In honor of those who have served the Center for 15 years or more, a Dinner was given by the Joint Administrative Board on November 5, 1947. Every department of the Hospital, including the Board of Governors, was represented on the honor group numbering 271.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS NOTES

The death of W. Gibson Carey, Jr. on October 4, 1947, was recorded with sorrow by the Board of Governors of which he had been an active member since 1932.

Creation of three new vice-presidencies and the election of Walter G. Dunnington (formerly Chairman of the Membership Committee) as Vice-President for Membership, Henry S. Sturgis (formerly Treasurer) as Vice-President for Finance, Langbourne M. Williams, Jr. (formerly Secretary) as Vice-President for Administrative Operations.

C. Douglas Dillon elected to the Board of Governors.

Murray Sargent elected as Honorary Governor.